

Salary History of the State's Elected Officials 1962 through 2004

Section I: 1962 through 1986 – Salaries Set by the Legislature

Prior to the establishment of the Commission, the Governor's Advisory Committee (**GAC**) on Salaries which in 1970 became the State Committee on Salaries (**SCS**) made salary recommendations to the Legislature for the elected officials' positions.

Position	1962		1964		1966		1968		1970	
	GAC Recom.	Authorized Salary	GAC Recom.	Authorized Salary	GAC Recom.	Authorized Salary	GAC Recom.	Authorized Salary	SCS Recom.	Authorized Salary
Executive Branch										
Governor	27,500	22,500	32,500	22,500	35,000	32,500	37,000	32,500	43,000	32,500
Lieutenant Governor	7,000	7,000	10,000	7,000	12,000	10,000	15,000	10,000	20,000	10,000
Secretary of State	15,000	12,000	15,000	12,000	18,000	15,000	20,000	15,000	24,000	15,000
Treasurer	15,000	12,000	15,000	12,000	18,000	15,000	20,000	15,000	24,000	15,000
Auditor	15,000	12,000	16,500	12,000	18,000	16,500	22,500	16,500	27,000	16,500
Attorney General	18,000	14,500	22,500	14,500	25,000	23,000	28,500	23,000	34,500	23,000
Supt.of Public Instruction	18,000	14,000	22,500	14,000	25,000	22,500	28,500	22,500	34,500	22,500
Com. of Public Lands	18,000	12,000	20,000	12,000	23,000	20,000	25,000	20,000	30,000	20,000
Insurance Commissioner	18,000	12,000	16,500	12,000	18,000	16,500	22,500	16,500	27,000	16,500
Judicial Branch										
Supreme Court Justices	25,000	20,000	27,500	20,000	27,500	27,500	32,000	27,500	40,000	27,500
Court of Appeals Judges							27,500		36,000	25,000
Superior Court Judges	20,000	15,000	22,000	15,000	22,000	20,000	25,000	22,500	34,000	22,000
District Court Judges									25,000	20,000
Legislative Branch										
Legislator	1,800	1,200	2,400	1,200	4,800	2,400	6,000	3,600	9,600	3,600

Notes

- The salary data for 1962 through 1986 was prepared for the Salary Commission in February 1987 from information received from the State Committee on Salaries (SCS).
- The Legislature first set the salaries of the judges of the Court of Appeals in 1969 and District court judges in 1970

Position	1972		1974		1976		1978		1980	
	SCS Recom.	Authorized Salary	SCS Recom.	Authorized Salary	SCS Recom.	Authorized Salary	SCS Recom.	Authorized Salary	SCS Recom.	Authorized Salary
Executive Branch										
Governor	47,300	32,500	50,000	34,300	55,000	42,150	61,000	55,000	78,000	63,000
Lieutenant Governor	22,000	10,000	25,000	10,600	25,000	17,800	27,800	25,000	33,400	28,600
Secretary of State	26,400	15,000	27,000	15,800	27,000	21,400	30,000	27,000	36,200	31,000
Treasurer	26,400	15,000	32,500	15,800	32,500	24,150	36,100	32,500	50,100	37,200
Auditor	29,700	16,500	32,500	17,400	32,500	24,950	36,100	32,500	50,100	37,200
Attorney General	37,950	23,000	41,200	24,300	41,200	31,500	45,700	41,200	57,400	47,100
Supt. of Public Instruction	37,950	22,500	37,400	23,750	37,400	31,500	41,500	37,400	57,400	42,800
Com. of Public Lands	33,000	20,000	37,400	21,100	37,400	29,250	41,500	37,400	57,400	42,800
Insurance Commissioner	29,700	16,500	30,700	17,400	30,700	24,050	36,100	32,500	48,300	37,200
Judicial Branch										
Supreme Court Justices	44,000	29,425	44,000	34,825	45,000	39,400	50,000	45,000	62,000	51,500
Court of Appeals Judges	29,600	26,750	41,000	31,650	42,000	36,325	47,000	42,000	59,000	48,100
Superior Court Judges	37,400	23,275	40,000	28,500	39,000	34,250	44,000	39,000	56,000	44,700
District Court Judges	27,500	21,400	30,000	23,250	33,000	29,000	38,000	33,000	50,400	40,230
Legislative Branch										
Legislator	10,540	3,600	10,000	3,800	10,000	3,800	12,000	7,200	4 Stages	9,800

Notes

1. The State Committee on Salaries (SCS) recommended "4 Stage" adjustments to legislator salaries beginning in 1980. Unfortunately, information on the amount of these recommendations is no longer available.

Position	1982		1984			1986	
	SCS Recom.	Authorized Salary	SCS Recom. For 7/85	SCS Recom. For 7/86	Authorized Salary	SCS Recom.	Authorized Salary
Executive Branch							
Governor	73,500	63,000	74,900	86,800	63,000	130,038	63,000
Lieutenant Governor	45,500	28,600	41,200	53,800	28,600	54,263	28,600
Secretary of State	45,500	31,000	42,400	53,800	31,000	55,806	31,000
Treasurer	47,200	37,200	46,450	55,700	37,200	68,346	37,200
Auditor	47,200	37,200	46,450	55,700	37,200	71,176	37,200
Attorney General	54,000	47,100	55,450	63,800	47,100	80,223	47,100
Supt. of Public Instruction	54,000	42,800	53,300	63,800	42,800	74,027	42,800
Com. of Public Lands	54,000	42,800	53,300	63,800	42,800	74,027	42,800
Insurance Commissioner	47,200	37,200	46,450	55,700	37,200	67,831	37,200
Judicial Branch							
Supreme Court Justices	66,000	51,500	69,000	72,150	66,000	83,200	66,000
Court of Appeals Judges	63,000	48,100	66,000	69,150	63,000	79,418	63,000
Superior Court Judges	60,000	44,700	63,000	66,150	60,000	78,634	60,000
District Court Judges	54,000	40,230	56,700	59,535	54,000	68,072	54,000
Legislative Branch							
Legislator	4 Stages	12,000	4 Stages	4 Stages	1,3750	4 Stages	13,750

Section 2: 1987 through 2004 – Salaries Set by the Washington Citizens’ Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials

The Washington Citizens’ Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials was established in 1986 by a Constitutional amendment and began setting the state elected officials’ salaries in 1987. Statute declares that the policy of the state is to base the salaries of the elected officials on realistic standards in order to pay them according to the duties of their office and to attract citizens of the highest quality to public service.

Position	1987 Salary Setting Session		1989 Salary Setting Session		1991 Salary Setting Session		1993 Salary Setting Session	
	9/1987	9/1988	9/1989	9/1990	9/1991	9/1992	9/1993	9/1994
Executive Branch								
Governor	83,800	93,900	96,700	99,600	112,000	121,000	121,000	121,000
Lieutenant Governor	45,000	48,000	51,100	52,600	58,600	62,700	62,700	62,700
Secretary of State	46,300	50,200	52,600	54,200	60,100	64,300	64,300	64,300
Treasurer	54,250	62,050	65,000	67,000	74,400	79,500	79,500	79,500
Auditor	55,250	64,050	67,100	69,100	77,800	84,100	84,100	84,100
Attorney General	63,800	72,200	75,700	78,000	86,400	92,000	92,000	92,000
Supt. of Public Instruction	59,950	66,600	69,800	71,900	80,500	86,600	86,600	86,600
Com. of Public Lands	59,950	66,600	69,800	71,900	80,500	86,600	86,600	86,600
Insurance Commissioner	53,700	61,000	63,900	65,800	72,700	77,200	77,200	77,200
Judicial Branch								
Supreme Court Justices	75,900	82,700	86,700	89,300	99,900	107,200	107,200	107,200
Court of Appeals Judges	72,100	78,600	82,400	84,900	95,000	101,900	101,900	101,900
Superior Court Judges	68,500	74,600	78,200	80,500	90,100	96,600	96,600	96,600
District Court Judges	62,100	71,000	74,400	76,600	85,700	91,900	91,900	91,900
Legislative Branch								
Legislator	15,500	16,500	17,900	19,900	23,900	25,900	25,900	25,900
Speaker of the House	*	*	19,700	21,900	29,000	33,900	33,900	33,900
Senate Majority Leader	*	*	18,800	20,900	25,100	29,900	29,900	29,900
House Minority Leader	*	*	18,800	20,900	25,100	29,900	29,900	29,900
Senate Minority Leader	*	*	18,800	20,900	25,100	29,900	29,900	29,900

*The annual legislative stipend for leadership duties was not adopted until the Commission’s 1989 salary setting session.

Position	1995 Salary Setting Session		1997 Salary Setting Session		1999 Salary Setting Session		2001 Salary Setting Session	
	9/1995	9/1996	9/1997	9/1998	9/1999	9/2000	9/2001	9/2002
Executive Branch								
Governor	121,000	121,000	121,000	121,000	132,000	135,960	139,087	142,286
Lieutenant Governor	62,700	62,700	62,700	62,700	69,000	71,070	72,705	74,377
Secretary of State	64,300	64,300	69,000	69,000	75,900	78,177	89,001	91,048
Treasurer	84,100	84,100	84,100	84,100	92,500	95,275	97,466	99,708
Auditor	84,100	84,100	84,100	84,100	92,500	95,275	97,466	99,708
Attorney General	92,000	92,000	93,000	93,000	120,000	123,600	126,443	129,351
Supt. of Public Instruction	86,600	86,600	86,600	86,600	94,394	97,226	99,462	101,750
Com. of Public Lands	86,600	86,600	86,600	86,600	94,394	97,226	99,462	101,750
Insurance Commissioner	77,200	77,200	77,200	77,200	86,000	88,580	90,617	92,702
Judicial Branch								
Supreme Court Justices	109,880	109,880	112,078	112,078	120,000	123,600	131,558	134,584
Court of Appeals Judges	104,448	104,448	106,537	106,537	114,000	117,420	125,236	128,116
Superior Court Judges	99,015	99,015	100,995	100,995	108,300	111,549	119,230	121,972
District Court Judges	94,198	94,198	96,082	96,082	102,885	105,972	113,524	116,135
Legislative Branch								
Legislators	27,100	28,300	28,300	28,300	31,130	32,064	32,801	33,556
Speaker of the House	35,100	36,300	36,300	36,300	39,120	40,064	40,801	41,556
Senate Majority Leader	31,100	32,300	32,300	32,300	35,130	36,064	40,801	41,556
House Minority Leader	31,100	32,300	32,300	32,300	35,130	36,064	36,801	37,556
Senate Minority Leader	31,100	32,300	32,300	32,300	35,130	36,064	36,801	37,556

Notes

1. The Commission conducts its salary setting business in the odd-numbered year of each biennium. Statute requires the Commission to adopt a two-year salary schedule and file it with the Secretary of State no later than the first Monday in June. The salary schedule becomes law 90 days after filing unless overturned by voter referendum.
2. Superior court judges' salaries are funded 50/50 by the county in which the court is located. District court judges' salaries are funded 100% by the county in which the court is located.

Position	2003 Salary Setting Session		2005 Salary Setting Session	
	9/2003	9/2004		
Executive Branch				
Governor	142,286	145,132		
Lieutenant Governor	74,377	75,865		
Secretary of State	99,708	101,702		
Treasurer	99,708	101,702		
Auditor	99,708	101,702		
Attorney General	129,351	131,938		
Supt. of Public Instruction	101,750	103,785		
Com. of Public Lands	101,750	103,785		
Insurance Commissioner	99,708	101,702		
Judicial Branch				
Supreme Court Justices	134,584	137,276		
Court of Appeals Judges	128,116	130,678		
Superior Court Judges	121,972	124,411		
District Court Judges	116,135	118,458		
Legislative Branch				
Legislators	33,556	34,227		
Speaker of the House	41,556	42,227		
Senate Majority Leader	41,556	42,227		
House Minority Leader	37,556	38,227		
Senate Minority Leader	37,556	38,227		

Notes

1. The Commission's next salary setting session will begin in January 2005. A series of public hearings will be scheduled throughout the state from January through May 2005.